actual control in order to arrive at a common understanding and facilitate implementation of the provisions of the Agreement. These two Agreements contribute to maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

India and China are committed to work towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. Both countries are discussing the boundary question in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group and India-China Expert Group. The Joint Working Group has met ten times so far, the last meeting being held in New Delhi in August 1997, while the Expert Group has met five times, the last meeting being held in New Delhi in March 1997.

Acquisition of Missile Technology by Pakistan

*132. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Hindustan Times, dated the 8th April, 1998, to the effect that Pakistan has successfully tested a medium range surface to surface missile, 'GHAURI' which could target New Delhi and other Indian cities; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken, so far, to meet any threat to India's national security and find out how Pakistan has acquired missile technology which is against Missile Technology Control Regime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Yes sir. Government have seen press reports about the officially claimed test firing of an intermediate range missile by Pakistan.

(b) Government closely monitors all developments including those relating to Pakistan's missile programme. We are fully aware of consistent outside support to Pakistan in this field despite the existence of multilateral export control regimes, unilateral declarations of restraint and supply restrictions in supplier countries. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests.

Payment of Share Cost of Sardar Sarovar Project

*133. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the decision taken by the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal regarding payment of share cost of the Sardar Sarovar Project by the participating States:

(b) the details of the share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project to be paid to Gujarat by the participating States;

(c) the amount paid till date, State-wise;

(d) the amount remained unpaid, State-wise;

(e) the steps taken by Government to realise the arrears from the defaulting States; and

(f) the time by which the full amount will be paid to Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (f) As per Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal Award (1979), the capital cost of the power component of Sardar Sarovar Project is to be shared by the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat in the ratio of 57:27:16. The cost of irrigation component of the project is to be shared between the State Governments of Gujarat and Rajasthan in the ratio of 18:1.

Details of share cost of the project to be paid to Gujarat by other participating States upto March 1998 are as under:

State	Amount Due	Amount Paid	(Rupees in Crores) Outstanding Dues (excluding disputed shares)
Madhya Pradesh	1052.34	488.89	509.41
Maharashtra	498.48	329.13	143.75
Rajasthan	294.86	62.95	222.00
TOTAL:	1845.68	880.97	875.16 (excluding disputed share of Rs. 89.55 crores)

The issue regarding payment of share costs of Sardar Sarovar Project to Govt. of Gujarat by other party States has been discussed in several meetings of Narmada Control Authority and Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee and the States have been apprised of the need for immediate settlement of outstanding dues to the Govt. of Gujarat. The issue was also considered by the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority in its seventh meeting held on 13.11.1996 where the States agreed to expedite the payment. The party States also agreed to make suitable provisions for the purpose in their Annual Plan/Budget. The Union Ministry of Water Resources are continuously requesting the concerned states to expedite the payment of their share cost to Gujarat.

China's support to Pakistan Nuclear programme

*134. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to China's reported support to Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme;

(b) if so, what is Government's information in regard thereto;

(c) Government's assessment about its repercussions on India's security; and

(d) whether in this context the US President has sought its Congressional approval of an agreement on peaceful nuclear cooperation between the US and China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Government are fully aware of the extensive cooperation of China in Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapon programme. China has provided assistance, inter alia, in setting up unsafeguarded research reactor and Plutonium re-processing facility, provided ring magnets, heavy water, diagnostic equipment etc.

(c) Government have made it clear that continuing supply of sophisticated nuclear weapons technology through clandestine means to Pakistan poses a threat to India's security and is not conductive to maintenance of peace and stability in the region. Government have been taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's national security interests and will continue to do so in keeping with its assessment of developments pertaining to India's security environment.

(d) Yes, Madam. Congressional hearings were held in February, 1998 on US President's decision to give necessary certification to China to bring into effect the 1985 US-China Agreement on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. Subsequently, in March, 1998, following a Presidential certification that China was not engaged in any proliferation activities or transfer of weapons of mass destruction, the 1985